

# CS10720 Problems and Solutions

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Today: More Representations for Integers

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# Announcements

Portfolio feedback sent out today  
**Contact me** if you have not received it  
or if you think something is not right.

**Contact me** if your portfolio feedback asks you to contact me  
because I have an important question.

Revised deadline for all portfolio submissions  
each Friday, **7pm**

# Plans for Today

## ① Revision and Catch up

Comparing Integers: Facts and Intuition

One's Complement Representation

## ② More Representations

Two's Complement Representation

Excess Representation

## ③ Comparing Integers

Introduction

Comparisons in Different Representations

## ④ Comparing Representations

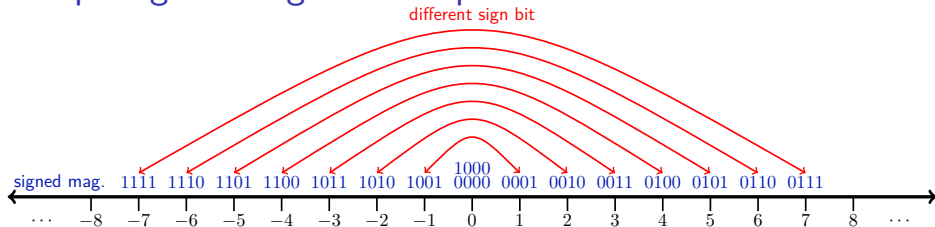
Properties of Different Representations

Advantages and Disadvantages

## ⑤ Summary

Summary & Take Home Message

# Recap: Signed Magnitude Representation



## Summary of facts about signed magnitude representation

- leftmost bit acts as **sign bit**
- non-negative numbers: standard binary encoding  
with sign bit 0
- negative numbers: standard binary encoding  
with sign bit 1
- 0 has two representations, 000000 and 100000
- largest number represented by 0111...11:  $2^{l-1} - 1$  ( $l$  bits)
- smallest number represented by 1111...11:  $-2^{l-1} + 1$  ( $l$  bits)

# Integers in Binary Representation: One's Complement

**Remember** signed magnitude representation  
 sign bit 0 represents non-negative number  
 sign bit 1 represents negative number  
 other bits in standard binary encoding

**Simple idea** use the same idea for the **sign bit**  
 but flip all bits for negative numbers

**Example**  $(11)_{10}$  represented as 001011  
 $(-11)_{10}$  represented as 110100

How is 0 represented?

**Observation** 000000 represents  $(-1)^0 \cdot 0 = 1 \cdot 0 = 0$   
 111111 represents  $(-1)^1 \cdot 0 = -1 \cdot 0 = 0$

**Remark** two different representations for 0 are **unpleasant**  
 because  $+0 = -0$  but  $000000 \neq 111111$  on bit-level  
 makes comparison **harder** for computers to perform

## Example: Conversion Decimal $\rightarrow$ One's Complement

**Example** Convert  $-19$  to One's Complement Rep. with 6 bits

**Conversion** of 19 into binary  
 (here with repeated division, as before)  
 $19/2 = 9$  R 1 thus, least significant bit is 1  
 $9/2 = 4$  R 1 thus, next bit is 1  
 $4/2 = 2$  R 0 thus, next bit is 0  
 $2/2 = 1$  R 0 thus, next bit is 0  
 $1/2 = 0$  R 1 thus, next bit is 1  
 since we are at 0 all remaining bits are 0  
**Result** 10011

**Observation**  $-19$  is negative, so invert all bits

**Result** 101100 (because we use 6 bits as length)

## Example: One's Complement $\rightarrow$ Decimal

**Example** Convert 100110 from One's Complement Rep.

**Observation** first bit is 1, thus number is negative  
thus, invert all bits

**Conversion** 11001 into decimal  
 $(11001)_2$   
 $= 1 \cdot 2^0 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^4$   
 $= 1 + 8 + 16 = 25$   
**Result** 25

**Result** -25

# The Extreme Values

What is the largest number you can represent with  $l = 6$  bits in one's complement representation?

Representation 011111

Value  $1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + 16 = 31$

And in general, for arbitrary  $l$ ?

Representation  $\underbrace{0111 \cdots 11}_{0 \text{ and } l-1 \text{ 1-bits}}$

Value  $1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + \cdots + 2^{l-2} = 2^{l-1} - 1$

What is the smallest number you can represent with  $l = 6$  bits in signed magnitude representation?

Representation 100000

Value  $-(1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + 16) = -31$

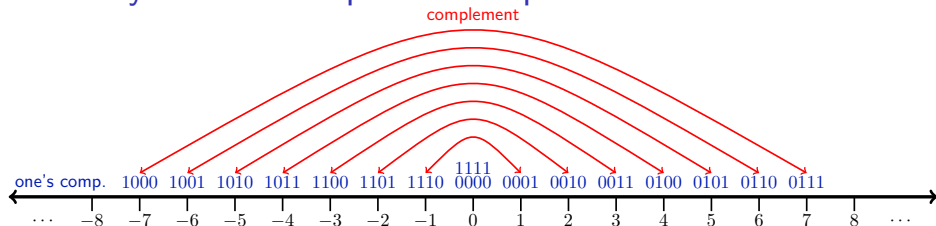
And in general, for arbitrary  $l$ ?

Representation  $\underbrace{1000 \cdots 00}_{1 \text{ and } l-1 \text{ 0-bits}}$

Value  $-(1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + \cdots + 2^{l-2}) = -(2^{l-1} - 1) = -2^{l-1} + 1$



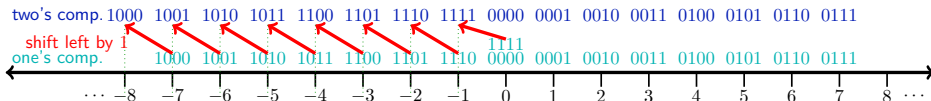
# Summary: One's Complement Representation



## Summary of facts about one's complement representation

- leftmost bit acts as **sign bit**
- non-negative numbers: standard binary encoding  
with **sign bit 0**
- negative numbers: complement of standard binary encoding
- 0 has two representations, 000000 and 111111
- largest number represented by 0111...11:  $2^{l-1} - 1$  ( $l$  bits)
- smallest number represented by 1000...00:  $-2^{l-1} + 1$  ( $l$  bits)

# Towards Two's Complement Representation



**Observation** both representations **wasteful**  
 using two different bit patterns for the same number, 0  
 (and introducing additional problems by doing this)

**Idea** modify one's complement representation  
 using only 0000 to represent 0  
 and do something useful with the free bit pattern 1111

## Example: Conversion Decimal $\rightarrow$ Two's Complement

**Example** Convert  $-19$  to Two's Complement Rep. with 6 bits

**Conversion** of 19 into binary  
 (here with repeated division, as before)  
 $19/2 = 9$  R 1 thus, least significant bit is 1  
 $9/2 = 4$  R 1 thus, next bit is 1  
 $4/2 = 2$  R 0 thus, next bit is 0  
 $2/2 = 1$  R 0 thus, next bit is 0  
 $1/2 = 0$  R 1 thus, next bit is 1  
 since we are at 0 all remaining bits are 0  
**Result** 10011

**Observation**  $-19$  is negative, so invert all bits and add 1  
 $101100 + 1 = 101101$  (because we use 6 bits as length)

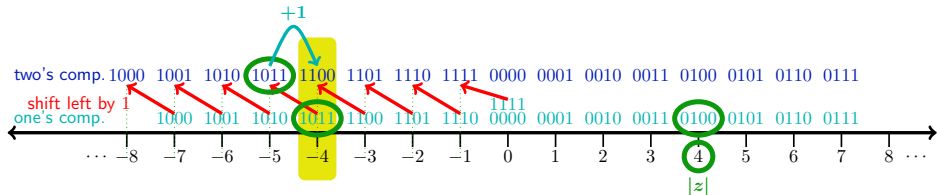
**Result** 101101 (because we use 6 bits as length)

Why does 'invert all bits and add 1' work?

# Method for Converting Decimal $\rightsquigarrow$ Two's Complement Method

- 1 Convert absolute value into standard binary encoding.
- 2 If number negative, invert all bits and add 1.

Why does this work?



Consider standard binary encoding of  $|z|$   
 Its inverse needs to be shifted 1 to the right  
 to correct for shift to left by 1; corresponding to adding 1.

## Example: Two's Complement $\rightarrow$ Decimal

**Example** Convert 100110 from Two's Complement Rep.

**Observation** first bit is 1, thus number is negative  
thus, invert all bits and add 1

**Conversion**  $11001 + 1 = 11010$  into decimal  
 $(11010)_2$   
 $= 0 \cdot 2^0 + 1 \cdot 2^1 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^4$   
 $= 2 + 8 + 16 = 25$

**Result** 25

**Result** -25

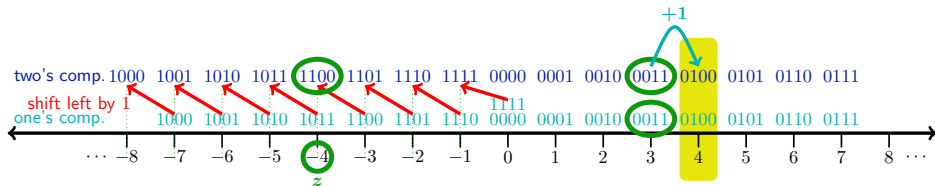
Why does 'invert all bits and add 1' work in this direction, too?

# Method for Converting Two's Complement $\rightsquigarrow$ Decimal

## Method

- 1 If first bit is 1, invert all bits and add 1.
- 2 Translate from standard binary encoding.

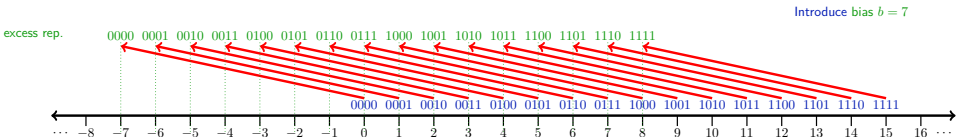
Why does this work?



Consider two's complement encoding of  $z$   
 Its inverse needs to be shifted 1 to the right  
 to correct for shift to left by 1; corresponding to adding 1.

<http://onlinetted.com>

# Excess Representation



## Summary of facts about excess representation

- works with any bias  $b \in \mathbb{Z}$
- bias  $b = 2^{l-1} - 1$  most common  
(e.g.  $b = 7$  for  $l = 4$ ,  $b = 31$  for  $l = 6$ )
- with  $b = 2^{l-1}$  leftmost bit **almost** a sign bit
- 0 has at most one representation,  $b$
- largest number represented by 1111...11:  $2^l - 1 - b$
- smallest number represented by 0000...00:  $-b$
- order of numbers equal to standard binary encoding

## Example: Conversion Decimal $\rightarrow$ Excess Representation

**Example** Convert  $-19$  to Excess Rep., 6 bits, excess  $2^5 - 1 = 31$

**Observation** we need to represent  $-19 + 31 = 12$

**Conversion** of 12 into binary  
 (different methods available, here using repeated division)  
 $12/2 = 6$  R 0 thus, least significant bit is 0  
 $6/2 = 3$  R 0 thus, next bit is 0  
 $3/2 = 1$  R 1 thus, next bit is 1  
 $1/2 = 0$  R 1 thus, next bit is 1  
 since we are at 0 all remaining bits are 0  
**Result** 1100

**Result** 001100



## Example: Excess Representation $\rightarrow$ Decimal

**Example** Convert 100110 from Excess Rep. with excess 31

**Conversion** 100110 into decimal

$$\begin{aligned} & (100110)_2 \\ &= 0 \cdot 2^0 + 1 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^4 + 1 \cdot 2^5 \\ &= 2 + 4 + 32 = 38 \end{aligned}$$

**Result** 38

**Remember** in excess representation with excess 31  
38 represents  $38 - 31 = 7$

**Result** 7

<http://onlinetted.com>

## Different Representations: Why?

Why do we consider different binary representations for integers?

Why do we not simply consider only the best?

**Insight**    what is the best binary representation for integers  
              may be depend on what we want to do with it

What do we want to do with integers in our computer?

- store them
- add or subtract them
- perform even more complex operations (like multiplication, division, square roots, ...)
- change their sign
- compare them

How do comparisons work in different representations?

# Comparing Integers in Signed Magnitude Rep. (Part 1)

**Problem** compare  $a$  with  $b$  <http://onlinetted.com>  
(both in signed magnitude representation with  $l = 6$  bits)

**Case 1** different first bits

- $a$  starts with 1,  $b$  starts with 0 (not both representing 0)  
 $a < b$  (example  $100101 < 000001$ )
- $a$  starts with 0,  $b$  starts with 1 (not both representing 0)  
 $a > b$  (example  $000011 > 101101$ )
- both representing 0  
 $a = b$  (example  $100000 = 000000$ )

**Case 2** both first bits 0

- at leftmost differing position  $a$  is 1,  $b$  is 0  
 $a > b$  (example  $010101 > 010001$ )
- at leftmost differing position  $a$  is 0,  $b$  is 1  
 $a < b$  (example  $001011 < 001101$ )
- all bits equal  
 $a = b$  (example  $101001 = 101001$ )

## Comparing Integers in Signed Magnitude Rep. (Part 2)

**Problem** compare  $a$  with  $b$

(both in signed magnitude representation with  $l = 6$  bits)

**Case 2** both first bits 0

- at leftmost differing position  $a$  is 1,  $b$  is 0  
 $a > b$  (example  $010101 > 010001$ )
- at leftmost differing position  $a$  is 0,  $b$  is 1  
 $a < b$  (example  $001011 < 001101$ )
- all bits equal  
 $a = b$  (example  $001001 = 001001$ )

**Case 3** both first bits 1

- at leftmost differing position  $a$  is 1,  $b$  is 0  
 $a < b$  (example  $110101 < 110001$ )
- at leftmost differing position  $a$  is 0,  $b$  is 1  
 $a > b$  (example  $101011 > 101101$ )
- all bits equal  
 $a = b$  (example  $101001 = 101001$ )

# Comparing Integers in One's Complement Rep. (Part 1)

**Problem** compare  $a$  with  $b$  <http://onlinetted.com>  
(both in one's complement representation with  $l = 6$  bits)

**Case 1** different first bits

- $a$  starts with 1,  $b$  starts with 0 (not both representing 0)  
 $a < b$  (example  $100101 < 000001$ )
- $a$  starts with 0,  $b$  starts with 1 (not both representing 0)  
 $a > b$  (example  $000011 > 101101$ )
- both representing 0  
 $a = b$  (example  $111111 = 000000$ )

**Case 2** both first bits 0

- at leftmost differing position  $a$  is 1,  $b$  is 0  
 $a > b$  (example  $010101 > 010001$ )
- at leftmost differing position  $a$  is 0,  $b$  is 1  
 $a < b$  (example  $001011 < 001101$ )
- all bits equal  
 $a = b$  (example  $101001 = 101001$ )

## Comparing Integers in One's Complement Rep. (Part 2)

**Problem** compare  $a$  with  $b$   
(both in signed magnitude representation with  $l = 6$  bits)

**Case 2** both first bits 0

- at leftmost differing position  $a$  is 1,  $b$  is 0  
 $a > b$  (example 010101 > 010001)
- at leftmost differing position  $a$  is 0,  $b$  is 1  
 $a < b$  (example 001011 < 001101)
- all bits equal  
 $a = b$  (example 001001 = 001001)

**Case 3** both first bits 1

- at leftmost differing position  $a$  is 1,  $b$  is 0  
 $a > b$  (example 110101 > 110001)
- at leftmost differing position  $a$  is 0,  $b$  is 1  
 $a < b$  (example 101011 < 101101)
- all bits equal  
 $a = b$  (example 101001 = 101001)

# Comparing Integers Represented in Binary

## Case 1: Non-Negative Numbers

**Observe** signed magnitude, one's complement, two's complement  
all **identical**

**Remember**  $00010111 = 1 \cdot 2^0 + 1 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + .2^4$

**Observe**  $\forall p \in \mathbb{N}: 2^p > \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} 2^i$  (since  $\sum_{i=0}^{p-1} 2^i = 2^p - 1$ )

**Consequence** left-most differing bit decides

**Example**  $00101110 > 00011111$

**What about excess representation?**

**Observation** **also works like this**

because  $a > c$  if and only if  $a + b > c + b$   
(so it does not hurt to compare  $a + b$  with  $c + b$   
instead of  $a$  and  $c$ )

# Comparing Integers Represented in Binary

## Case 2: Negative Numbers

Signed magnitude **requires reversal of logic**

because  $a > c$  implies  $-a < -c$

**but** sign change in signed magnitude representation  
changes leading 0-bit to 1-bit  
leaving comparison result unchanged

One's complement **works as before**

because  $a > c$  implies  $-a < -c$

**and** inverting all bits inverts comparison result

Two's complement **works as before**

because  $a > c$  implies  $-a < -c$

**and** inverting all bits inverts comparison result

**and** adding 1 does not change this

Excess **works as before**

because  $a > c$  if and only if  $a + b > c + b$

and that holds for positive and negative  $a$  and  $c$



# Comparing Integers Represented in Binary

## Case 3: Negative and Positive Numbers

Signed magnitude    **special case**

because result depends only on sign bit

One's complement    **special case**

because result depends only on left-most bit

Two's complement    **special case**

because result depends only on left-most bit

Excess    **works as before**

because  $a > c$  if and only if  $a + b > c + b$

and that holds for positive and negative  $a$  and  $c$

Summary    only excess representation works the same in all cases  
all other representations require **case distinctions**

## Comparing Representations for Integers (Using $l$ Bits)

Property	Signed M.	One's C.	Two's C.	Excess $b = 2^{l-1} - 1$
Rep. of 0	000...00 or 100...00	000...00 or 111...11	000...00	011...11
Rep. of 1	000...01	000...01	000...01	100...00
Rep. of -1	100...01	111...10	111...11	011...10
Largest rep.	011...11	011...11	011...11	111...11
Smallest rep.	111...11	100...00	100...00	000...00
Largest num.	$2^{l-1} - 1$	$2^{l-1} - 1$	$2^{l-1} - 1$	$2^{l-1}$
Smallest num.	$-(2^{l-1} - 1)$	$-(2^{l-1} - 1)$	$-2^{l-1}$	$-(2^{l-1} - 1)$

## Summary Properties of Different Representations

Representation	sign change	comparisons	additions
signed magnitude	very easy	hard	hard
one's complement	easy	hard	hard
two's complement	not so easy	hard	easy
excess	very hard	easy	very hard

- if comparisons are most important  
then use excess representation
- if additions are most important  
then use two's complement representation

**Remember** it depends on the application  
what the best representation is

# Summary & Take Home Message

## Things to remember

- representation of integers: one's complement, two's complement, excess
- comparing representations of integers
  - signed magnitude: the same as for decimals; sign change very easy; easy to read
  - one's complement: sign change easy
  - two's complement: unique representation for each number; range of numbers larger by 1; (not seen) supports addition
  - excess: unique representation for each number; range of numbers larger by 1; supports comparisons

## Take Home Message

- Knowing the basics is important.
- Numbers can be represented in different formats.
- There is no unique best format. It depends on the application.
- Standards are important.